

Learning basic plumbing skills

Vocabulary

Ex. 1. Match the words with their definitions.

1. solution	a. a pipe that allows air to flow back into a system.
2. service panel	b. a box that holds controls and wires for electricity or other systems.
3. clog	c. a container that holds liquids, like water or waste.
4. continuous waste	d. an answer to a problem or question.
5. chain	e. a small round part that helps hold things together in machines.
6. tank	f. a series of connected links used to pull or hold things.
7. secure	g. something that blocks the flow of water or air.
8. disposal	h. a system that moves waste without stopping.
9. loop vent	i. a way to get rid of trash or unwanted items.
10. cam washer	j. to make sure something stays in place and does not move.

Ex. 2. Complete the sentences with the given words.

basin wrench, hacksaw, rigid, shower faucet, earplugs, rotate, relief valve, drill, vacuum, remove

To cut the metal pipe, you need a _____(1) that is sharp and effective.

A _____(2) is essential for loosening tight nuts under the sink during repairs.

I bought a new _____(3) bit to make drilling into the wall easier for the plumbing project.

It is a good idea to wear _____(4) while using loud power tools in your garage.

To tighten the pipe, you should _____(5) it carefully until it fits securely in place.

If there is a leak, you may need to _____(6) the old washer and replace it with a new one.

The pipe was too _____(7), making it difficult to bend around the corner of the wall.

Always check the _____(8) to ensure it works properly and prevents pressure build-up.

When adjusting the water temperature, turn the _____(9) slowly to avoid sudden changes.

A _____(10) can be very helpful when cleaning up debris after completing your plumbing work.

Reading

Ex. 1. Read the text.

Learning basic plumbing skills can save a lot of time and money at home. For beginners, it's important to start with the essential tools. A plunger, pipe wrench, and a set of pliers are must-haves. Knowing how to turn off the water supply is crucial to prevent floods. Every sink and toilet has a shut-off valve nearby.

One common issue is a leaky faucet. It's usually caused by a worn-out washer which you can replace yourself. Turn off the water, remove the faucet handle, and replace the old washer with a new one. Tightening pipe connections can also stop leaks, but be careful not to over-tighten as this could damage the pipes.

Unclogging drains is another frequent task. A mixture of baking soda and vinegar poured down the drain followed by hot water often works. If not, a drain snake or plunger should do the trick. Remember, never pour grease or oil down the drain as it solidifies and causes blockages.

Lastly, practice makes perfect. Start with minor repairs and increase the complexity as you gain confidence. With some patience and the right tools, you'll be able to handle many common plumbing issues yourself.

Ex. 2. Answer the questions.

1. What are the essential tools for beginners learning basic plumbing skills?
2. Why is it crucial to know how to turn off the water supply when working on plumbing?
3. What is a common cause of a leaky faucet, and how can it be fixed?
4. How can tightening pipe connections help stop leaks, and what caution should be taken?
5. What method can be used to unclog drains before resorting to a drain snake or plunger?
6. Why should grease or oil never be poured down the drain?
7. How can beginners improve their plumbing skills over time?

Communication

Ex. 1. Make sentences using the following words:

1. plumber/fixed/leaky
2. sink/clogged/professional
3. important/fixing/plumbing
4. water/heater/replaced
5. unclog/drain/know
6. toilet/constantly/repair
7. buy/faucet/kitchen
8. licensed/plumber/recommended
9. shower/head/leaking
10. regular/maintenance/prevent